AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sleeve of elasticated netting ~~provided with a seam~~ divided by a longitudinal seam into a larger diameter portion and a smaller diameter portion such that when a meat product ~~having a radius~~ is encapsulated ~~by the sleeve a portion of the seam will project radially relative to the product and will not become embedded in the surface of the product when it is cooked~~ in the larger diameter portion, the smaller diameter portion will be held in contact with the meat product only at the seam and can be lifted away from the meat product to raise the latter by grasping the smaller diameter portion at a position spaced from the meat product.

2. (Original) A sleeve as claimed in claim 1, wherein the seam extends longitudinally of the sleeve offset from the centre of the sleeve, so that the projection is a small proportion of the width of the sleeve isolated by the seam from the remainder of the sleeve.

3. (Previously Presented) A sleeve as claimed in claim 2, wherein the seam is sewn with yarn stitches which will unravel when an end of the yarn is pulled.

4. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing the sleeve claimed in claim 1, the method comprising sewing into the sleeve as it emerges continuously from storage means a longitudinal seam offset from the centre of the sleeve, encapsulating a product in the larger diameter portion of the sleeve and cutting the sleeve roughly to the length of the product whereby the smaller diameter portion of the sleeve on the opposite side of the seam to the product provides a lateral projection which will not become embedded in the product and can be used for handling the same.

5. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the seam is sewn using stitches which will unravel when a cut end of the yarn is pulled.